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John Sherman Sr., 75, former CIA, CAB employee and artist

John Sherman Sr., 75, a former employee of the Central Intelligence Agency, died Friday of respiratory failure in George Washington University Hospital. He lived in McLean.

Mr. Sherman was born in Cleveland and was graduated from Yale University, where he also received a degree in law.

During World War II he served in the Army Air Forces in the Pacific.

He worked for the Civil Aeronautics Board after the war, and became secretary of the old Air Coordinating Committee in 1948.

In 1952 he founded his own construction company in Denver.

Mr. Sherman moved to the Washington area in 1959 to work for the CIA. He retired in 1969 and for two years was business manager of

the Hillcrest Children's Center in Washington.

Mr. Sherman was an artist and exhibited his works last year in a show at the Emerson Gallery in McLean.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Sherman; a daughter, Barbara Schneider of Ithaca, N.Y.; two sons, John Sherman Jr. of Kinston, N.C., and Brad Sherman of McLean; two sisters, Harriet Barnes and Betty Hughes of Norwich, Vt., and four grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday in St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square.

The family suggests that expressions of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the Rector's Discretionary Fund, St. John's Church, Lafayette Square, 1525 H St. NW.